



# **Protective Factors for Vulnerable Children Around the World using IPUMS MICS**

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Children's lives: International conference on children and their families  
using Multiple Indicator Cluster Surveys (MICS) - September 2024

# Overview

4796138925825634972846961 2862514197341212569321437 3154782418936587121934598 9283869353892769675793121 3479142729384247 1528421876639289487 6914872 52529174676 5362593 21787592782 7195729 93323729457 8647386 35958721659837 325214791627418142153989 941982988918142 83616915956 19254246 6847213 56387 7291 3874 5938724619628951479254386

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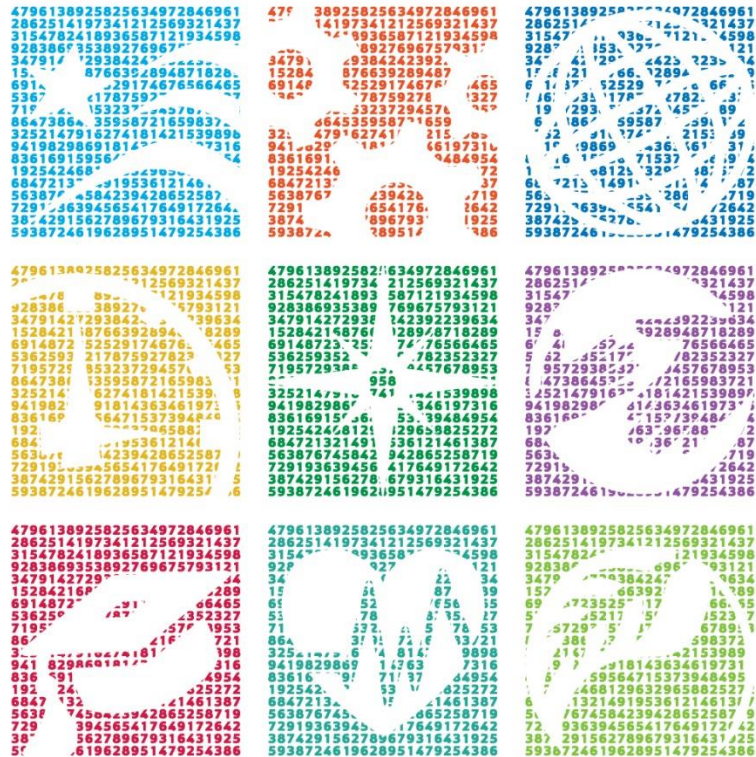
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# Overview



- What is IPUMS MICS
- Why use IPUMS MICS
- Getting started

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**IPUMS**  
**MICS**

**Harmonization for  
900+ variables**

**92 countries 218 samples 1089 datasets**

# Why IPUMS MICS?

- Variable harmonization
- Common geographic footprint over time
- Comprehensive documentation—with just a click
  - Notes on comparability of variables across samples
  - Universe of respondents asked each question
  - Questionnaire text associated with variable, and full questionnaires
- Entirely free of charge

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# Getting started

- Start browsing ([mics.ipums.org](https://mics.ipums.org))
- Register (or sign in)
- Browse Data
- Questions? Click on SUPPORT
  - Introductory webinars
  - FAQ
  - User Notes

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# Research with IPUMS MICS

Among orphans, what factors are associated with less anxiety?

Demonstrate research with small subgroup

Preliminary results



# Key variables

## Orphans

- Vulnerable children who have lost one or both parents
  - Maternal orphans
  - Paternal orphans
  - Double orphans
- For single orphans, is child living with surviving parent?

## Anxiety

- Reported by child's caregiver
- We dichotomize into whether child experiences (1) or not (0)



# Methodology

## **Samples**

1. All children 5-14 from 55 MICS6 samples
  2. Orphans only from same MICS6 samples
- Allows for an analysis of which orphans are faring better & why

## **Analytic approach**

- Multilevel logistic regression with random effects for sample
- Child, caregiver, household & community variables included in models

Child sometimes  
anxious:

Orphan effect in  
**all-children** model

(n=425,071)

<b>Non-orphan (ref)</b>	
<b>Maternal orphan</b>	1.277***
<b>Paternal orphan</b>	1.200***
<b>Double orphan</b>	1.191***

Child  
sometimes  
anxious:

# Orphan effect in **orphan-only** model

(n=33,757)

[illegible]

Child  
sometimes  
anxious:

Orphan effect  
in orphan-only  
model

(n=33,757)

Status (dbl orphan=ref)	
Maternal, dad resident	1.008
Maternal, dad not resident	1.016
Paternal, mom resident	0.962
Paternal, mom not resident	0.900*
Child age	1.208*
Male child	0.961
Male caregiver	0.922*
Caregiver age	0.971**
Caregiver education	ns
Number of kids in HH	1.014
Wealth (Middle=ref)	
Poorest	1.067
Poorer	1.039
Richer	0.983
Richest	0.912*

# Recap: Analyses show

- Orphans of every category are more likely than non-orphans to experience anxiety
- Among orphans, paternal orphans who live apart from their mothers are at lower odds of experiencing anxiety
- Other child, caregiver & household are uniquely associated with orphan anxiety



# Conclusion

- IPUMS MICS is a new tool facilitating research using MICS data
- Especially valuable for studies:
  - Making comparisons across time or countries
  - Pooling samples to analyze small subpopulations, such as orphans
- IPUMS MICS is available free online
- Please cite IPUMS MICS if you make use of it!

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